

## Community Demonstration: Raising Our Voices against For-Profit Incarceration

Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) is the nation's largest owner and operator of privatized (for-profit) correctional and detention facilities and one of the largest prison operators in the U.S., behind only the federal government and three states.

The 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of CCA will be held at 10:00 am on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at the company's Nashville headquarters at 10 Burton Hills Boulevard. As stockholders arrive that morning, we would like to organize and join with like-minded individuals opposed to the for-profit prison industry and its business practices and voice our opposition - calling for divestment and reform - outside CCA's headquarters.

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# Take Action

**Demonstration:**                      **Thursday, May 10, 2012**                      **9:00-11:00 am**  
CCA Headquarters, 10 Burton Hills Blvd, Nashville, TN

**Planning Meeting:**                      **Saturday, May 5, 2012**                      **3:00-5:00 pm**  
Brookmeade Congregational Church, UCC, 700 Bresslyn Road, Nashville, TN

**Contact:**                      **Organizer - Brookmeade Congregational Church, UCC**  
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## Issues

CCA maximizes profits by keeping costs low and beds full. Adding a profit motive to detention and incarceration creates two levels of problems for a just society:

- **CCA has a vested interest in keeping prison and detention beds full.**  
Until 2010, CCA was a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). ALEC has pushed for legislation that calls for harsh sentences, mandatory minimums and derailing comprehensive immigration reform.  
  
CCA has spent about \$17.6 million lobbying Congress and federal agencies between 2000 and 2010.
- **Cost-cutting measures employed by privatized prisons, jails, and detention centers pose dangers to the health and safety of both those detained or imprisoned and the staff of the facilities.**  
Low-cost operations come at a human cost. The prison industry cuts expenses by paying guards and staff less. Private prisons frequently fail to staff facilities at contractually required levels – understaffing saves money. Rates of violence are higher in for-profit facilities.

According to Amnesty International, 1 in 10 women incarcerated in federal and state facilities are victims of sexual assault. In private prisons, it is 1 in 4 women.

## **What are we calling for?**

Please attend the planning meeting on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 pm at Brookmeade Congregational Church at 700 Bresslyn Road in Nashville, where we will discuss our call for action and strategy. Possible ideas include:

- Bring media attention to opposition to the for-profit private prison industry: Demonstration and Letter to the Editor of The Tennessean
- Call for divestment: Encourage shareholders to divest CXW from their portfolios for ethical reasons
- Call for reform

## **Vote “Yes” on the Shareholder Proxy Measure**

At the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, a proxy measure has been put up by a shareholder who works for reformation of the private prison industry. It calls for CCA to issue twice yearly reports on its efforts to reduce prisoner rape and sexual abuse within its facilities, and include statistical data on those incidents. CCA’s Directors are unanimously opposed to this measure, asking shareholders to vote “no” and wait for under-development Department of Justice mandates. The measure is supported by organizations including the National Center for Domestic and Sexual Violence, National Organization for Women, National Lawyers Guild and Human Rights Defense Center.